

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A data display method comprising the steps of:

receiving, by a data terminal, multimedia data having data embedded therein by means of electronic watermark techniques, data that includes said data including first information to be disclosed, and second information representing an expiration data which is used to control display of said first information to be disclosed for controlling said data to be disclosed, said multimedia data symbolically representing a content of said embedded data;

comparing, by said data terminal, the expiration date represented by said second information included in said received multimedia data with clock information the condition on contained in said data terminal-side; and

making, by said data terminal, at least part of said multimedia data or said first information to be disclosed invisible or illegible on said data terminal on the basis of a result of the comparison using the expiration date represented by of said second information.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said embedded data includes third information as to electronic signature for confirming the reliability of said embedded data, and said method further comprising the steps of:

comparing said third information as to signature included in said received multimedia data with thea condition on said data terminal side; and

making said multimedia data and said first information to be disclosed invisible on said data terminal if said embedded data is decided not to have much credibility on the basis of the result of the comparison ~~of using~~ said third-information as to electronic signature.

3-4. Canceled.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said data terminal judges whether a current time contained in said clock information falls within said expiration date by comparing the expiration date represented by said second information with the current time in said clock information ~~second information is information representing an expiration date of said multimedia data, and said comparison of said second information is performed so that said data terminal can decide if the present time is within said expiration date by comparing said second information with the present time on said data terminal side.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein said data terminal has a public key of a management server for managing said multimedia data, said third information results from encrypting said embedded data by use of a secret key of said management server, and said comparison of said third-information as to electronic signature is performed so that said data terminal can decide if said embedded data has much credibility by decrypting said third-information as to electronic signature by said public key and comparing the decoded data with said embedded data.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first information to be disclosed includes outline information briefly showing the content of said embedded data, and whereabouts information showing a location of detailed information of said embedded data, said outline information and said whereabouts information are displayed on said data terminal in response to an input to said multimedia data when said multimedia data is displayed on said data terminal, and said detailed information is displayed on said data terminal in response to an input to said displayed whereabouts information.

8. (Currently Amended) A data terminal comprising:

a receiving portion for receiving multimedia data having data embedded therein by means of electronic watermark techniques, said data including data that includes first information to be disclosed, and second information representing an expiration date which is used to display of said first information to be disclosed ~~for controlling said data to be disclosed, said multimedia data symbolically representing a content of said embedded data;~~

a processor for comparing the expiration date represented by said second information included in said received multimedia data with clock information of a condition on said data terminal ~~side; and~~

a display device capable of displaying said multimedia data and said first information, said processor making at least part of said multimedia data or said first information to be disclosed invisible or illegible on said data terminal on the basis of a result of the comparison using the expiration date represented by of said second

information.

9. (Currently Amended) A data terminal according to claim 8, wherein said embedded data includes ~~third~~ information as to electronic signature, ~~for confirming if said embedded data has credibility~~, and said processor compares said ~~third~~ information as to electronic signature included in said received multimedia data with ~~the~~ condition on said data terminal side and, if said embedded data is decided not to have credibility as the result of the comparison using of said third information as to electronic signature, makes said multimedia data and said first information to be disclosed invisible on said display device.

10-11. Canceled.

12. (Currently Amended) A data terminal according to claim 8, wherein said processor judges whether current time contained in said clock information falls within ~~said expiration date by comparing the expiration date represented by said second information with the current time in said clock information~~ ~~second information is information representing an expiration date of said multimedia data~~, and said comparison of ~~said second information is performed in such a manner that said processor compares said second information with the present time on said data terminal side, thereby deciding if present time is within the expiration date~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A data terminal according to claim 8, wherein said data terminal further comprises a storage device for storing a public key of said

management server for managing said multimedia data, said third-information as to electronic signature is said embedded data that has already been encrypted by use of a private key of said management server, and said comparison of said third information as to electronic signature is performed such that said processor decrypts said third-information as to electronic signature by use of said public key and compares said decoded data with said embedded data, thereby deciding if said embedded data has credibility.

14. (Currently Amended) A data terminal according to claim 8, wherein said first information to be disclosed includes outline information briefly showing the content of said embedded data and whereabouts information for showing a location of detailed information of said embedded data, said processor controls said display device to display said outline information and said whereabouts information in response to an input to said multimedia data when said multimedia data is displayed on said display device, and controls said display device to display said detailed information in response to an input to said displayed whereabouts information.

15-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A recording medium having a program stored to be used in a data display system and that can be read by a computer, said program including the steps of:

receiving, by a data terminal, multimedia data that has data embedded therein data by means of electronic watermark techniques, said data including first

information to be disclosed, and second information representing an expiration date which is used to control display of said first information to be disclosed for controlling said data to be displayed, said multimedia data symbolically expressing the content of said embedded data;

comparing, by said terminal, the expiration date represented by said second information included in said received multimedia data with clock information of the condition on said data terminal side; and

making, by said data terminal, at least part of said multimedia data or said first information to be disclosed not displayed or illegible on said data terminal according to the result of said comparison using the expiration date represented by of said second information.

24-25. (Canceled)